10

CLAIMS

- 1. An aluminum alloy hollow material characterized in that the material is manufactured by subjecting an aluminum alloy ingot containing at least 0.3~1.5 wt% Mn to port hole extrusion or to port hole extrusion followed by drawing-elongation processing, wherein a difference in electric conductivity of individual portions in lengthwise direction of the hollow material is not more than 1.0 IACS%.
- 2. A process for producing an aluminum alloy hollow material as set forth in claim 1, wherein an aluminum alloy ingot containing at least 0.3~1.5 wt% Mn is

 15 subjected to a homogenizing treatment and thereafter the ingot is subjected to port hole extrusion or port hole extrusion followed by drawing-elongation processing to produce a hollow material, in which the aforesaid homogenizing treatment is carried out by maintaining the

 20 ingot at a given temperature of 500~630 °C for 0~24 hours, thereafter cooling the ingot down to 400~500 °C at a cooling velocity of not more than 100 °C/hr, and maintaining the ingot at this temperature for 4~48 hours.
- 3. A process for producing an aluminum alloy hollow

10

15

20

25

material as set forth in claim 1, wherein an aluminum alloy ingot containing at least 0.3~-1.5 wt% Mn is subjected to a homogenizing treatment and thereafter the ingot is subjected to port hole extrusion or port hole extrusion followed by drawing-elongation processing to produce a hollow material, in which the aforesaid homogenizing treatment of the ingot is carried out by maintaining the ingot at a given temperature (T_1) of 500~-630 °C for 0~-16 hrs, thereafter cooling the ingot from the temperature T_1 to 350 °C (T_2) at a cooling velocity of not more than 100°C/hr, whereby the time from after achieving to the temperature T_1 to becoming the temperature T_2 is maintained within 10~-48 hrs, and cooling the ingot at an optional cooling velocity from the temperature T_2 to room temperature.

4. A process for producing an aluminum alloy hollow material as set forth in claim 1, wherein an aluminum alloy ingot containing at least 0.3~1.5 wt% Mn is subjected to a homogenizing treatment and thereafter the ingot is subjected to port hole extrusion or port hole extrusion followed by drawing-elongation processing to produce a hollow material, in which the aforesaid homogenizing treatment is carried out by maintaining the ingot at a given temperature of 400~500 °C for 12~48 hours,

and thereafter cooling the ingot down to room temperature.

- 5. A process for producing an aluminum alloy hollow material as set forth in claim 1, wherein an aluminum alloy inqot containing at least 0.3~1.5 wt% Mn is 5 subjected to a homogenizing treatment and thereafter the ingot is subjected to port hole extrusion or port hole extrusion followed by drawing-elongation processing to produce a hollow material, in which the aforesaid homogenizing treatment of the ingot is carried out by 10 maintaining the ingot at a given temperature of 400-500 °C for 0.5-4 hours, thereafter elevating the temperature up to an another given temperature of 550~630 °C, maintaining the temperature for 0.5-4 hrs., thereafter cooling the ingot to 350 °C at a cooling velocity of not more than 100 15 °C/hr, and cooling the ingot from 350 °C to room temperature at an optional cooling rate.
- 6. An aluminum alloy extruded pipe material for air conditioner piping characterized in that an aluminum alloy ingot consisting of 0.8~1.5 wt% Mn, 0.1~0.7 wt% Fe, 0.03~0.6 wt% Si, and 1 or at least 2 of 0.00~0.45 wt% Cu, 0.0~0.3 wt% Mg, 0.0~0.3 wt% Cr, 0.0~0.1 wt% Ti, 0.0~0.5 wt% Zn, 0.0~0.3 wt% Zr, and 0.0~0.3 wt% Ni, the balance being aluminum, and any unavoidable impurities is

25

subjected to port hole type continuous hot extrusion, wherein an electric conductivity of the aforesaid pipe material is at least 39.0 IACS% and a difference in electric conductivity of individual portions in lengthwise direction of the extruded pipe material is not more than 1.0 IACS%.

- 7. A process for producing an aluminum alloy extruded pipe material for air conditioner piping wherein an aluminum alloy ingot consisting of 0.8~1.5 wt% Mn, 10 0.1-0.7 wt% Fe, 0.03-0.6 wt% Si, and 1 or at least 2 of 0.00-0.45 wt% Cu, 0.0-0.3 wt% Mg, 0.0-0.3 wt% Cr, 0.0-0.1 wt% Ti, 0.0~0.5 wt% Zn, 0.0~0.3 wt% Zr, and 0.0~0.3 wt% Ni, the balance being aluminum, and any unavoidable impurities is subjected to a homogenizing treatment and thereafter 15 the ingot is subjected to port hole type continuous hot extrusion method to extrude a pipe material, in which the aforesaid homogenizing treatment of the ingot is carried out by maintaining the ingot at a given temperature of 500-630 °C for 0-24 hrs, thereafter cooling the ingot down 20 to an another given temperature of 400~500 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ at a cooling velocity of not more than 100 °C/hr, and maintaining the ingot at this temperature for 4-48 hrs.
 - 8. A process for producing an aluminum alloy

extruded pipe material for air conditioner piping wherein an aluminum alloy ingot consisting of 0.8~1.5 wt% Mn, 0.1-0.7 wt% Fe, 0.03-0.6 wt% Si, and 1 or at least 2 of 0.00-0.45 wt% Cu, 0.0-0.3 wt% Mg, 0.0-0.3 wt% Cr, 0.0-0.1 wt% Ti, 0.0~0.5 wt% Zn, 0.0~0.3 wt% Zr, and 0.0~0.3 wt% Ni, the balance being aluminum, and any unavoidable impurities is subjected to a homogenizing treatment and the ingot is subjected to port hole type continuous hot extrusion method to extrude a pipe material, in which the aforesaid homogenizing treatment of the ingot is carried out by 10 maintaining the ingot at a given temperature (T_1) of 500-630 °C for 0-48 hrs, thereafter cooling the ingot from the temperature \mathbf{T}_1 to 350 °C (\mathbf{T}_2) at a cooling velocity of not more than 100 $^{\circ}\text{C/hr}$, whereby the time from after achieving the temperature \mathbf{T}_1 to becoming the temperature \mathbf{T}_2 15 is maintained within 12~48 hours, and cooling the ingot at an optional cooling velocity from the temperature T_2 to room temperature.

9. A process for producing an aluminum alloy extruded pipe material for air conditioner piping wherein an aluminum alloy ingot consisting of 0.8~1.5 wt% Mn, 0.1~0.7 wt% Fe, 0.03~0.6 wt% Si, and 1 or at least 2 of 0.00~0.45 wt% Cu, 0.0~0.3 wt% Mg, 0.0~0.3 wt% Cr, 0.0~0.1 wt% Ti, 0.0~0.5 wt% Zn, 0.0~0.3 wt% Zr, and 0.0~0.3 wt% Ni,

the balance being aluminum, and any unavoidable impurities is subjected to a homogenizing treatment and the ingot is subjected to port hole type continuous hot extrusion method to extrude a pipe material, in which the aforesaid homogenizing treatment of the ingot is carried out by maintaining the ingot at a given temperature of 400-500 °C for 12-48 hrs, and thereafter cooling the ingot down to room temperature.

10. A process for producing an aluminum alloy 10 extruded pipe material for air conditioner piping wherein an aluminum alloy ingot consisting of 0.8~1.5 wt% Mn, 0.1-0.7 wt% Fe, 0.03-0.6 wt% Si, and 1 or at least 2 of 0.00~0.45 wt% Cu, 0.0~0.3 wt% Mg, 0.0~0.3 wt% Cr, 0.0~0.1 wt% Ti, 0.0~0.5 wt% Zn, 0.0~0.3 wt% Zr, and 0.0~0.3 wt% Ni, 15 the balance being aluminum, and any unavoidable impurities is subjected to a homogenizing treatment and the ingot is subjected to port hole type continuous hot extrusion method to extrude a pipe material, in which the aforesaid homogenizing treatment of the ingot is carried out by 20 maintaining the ingot at a given temperature of 400~500 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 0.5~4 hours, thereafter elevating the temperature up to an another given temperature of 550~630 °C, maintaining the temperature for 0.5-4 hrs., thereafter cooling the ingot to 350 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ at a cooling velocity of not more than 100 25

 $^{\circ}\text{C/hr}\text{,}$ and cooling the ingot from 350 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to room temperature at an optional cooling velocity.